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Gregory J. Koerner
Redwood Patent Law
1291 East Hillsdale Boulevard
Suite 205
Foster City, CA 94404

EXAMINER

HOSSAIN, FARZANA E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2617

DATE MAILED: 06/21/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/899,598	RAVERDY ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Farzana E. Hossain	2617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 July 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-43 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-43 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 July 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claim 1, 2, 10, 11, 14, 21, 22, 30, 31, 34 and 41-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bonomi et al (US 6,769,127 and hereafter referred to as "Bonomi").

Regarding Claims 1, 20, 41-43, Bonomi discloses that a server distributes video services or event content to its subscribers or users (Column 6, lines 38-40) over a network or communications medium. Bonomi discloses that the media management unit manages video services include video-on-demand (VOD) or scheduled programs (live) or broadcast video (Column 6, lines 32-35). Bonomi also discloses that the server has a customer management module which includes the customer profile including passwords and PIN (Column 30, lines 49-52) which allows customers to access there services that would otherwise be restricted (Figures 12B, 12D). Bonomi discloses a terminal device or client machine or user device that connects to the server

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in order to receive video services over a wireless network or wireless communications procedure (Column 7, lines 10-17). Bonomi discloses that the subscriber or user makes selections according to the program guide in order to watch live (broadcast) or a stored program (VOD) on the client machine (Figure 5B). Regarding Claim 41, Bonomi discloses that the invention could also be embodied as a computer readable medium.

Regarding Claims 2 and 22, Bonomi discloses that the video services have restricted service packages depending on the customer account such as a family account (Figure 16B). Bonomi discloses that there are adult and minor subscribers and that the minor subscribers do not have access particular channels unlike the adults who can access the full services of the package (Figure 16B). Bonomi discloses that the user device can be a desktop computer, a laptop, a mobile device, a personal digital assistant (PDA), or a handheld computer (Column 7, lines 21-23, Column 8, lines 1-4).

Regarding Claims 10 and 30, Bonomi discloses that there is a live transmission that is currently being broadcasted or streaming video that is stored in the cache of the server in order to facilitate replay or instant replay on an instant replay channel (Column 9, lines 41-57).

Regarding Claims 11 and 31, Bonomi discloses that there is media on demand (MOD) or VOD programs transmitted with program guide information or metadata channel (Figure 15B).

Regarding Claims 14 and 34, Bonomi discloses all the limitations of Claim 1. Bonomi also discloses that there is a customer management module, which has subscribers or customers with their own profiles, which includes passwords or PINs

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(Figure 12D). Bonomi discloses the restricted access in an example of a family so that adults and children different accesses to the server. It is inherent that if the password and PINs are provided per customer that they are used to access the server. Bonomi discloses that the customer views the program guide information via different viewing modes including television, media on demand (MOD) or VOD, or guide for viewing program guide information or content downloaded to the terminal device (Figures 15B, 5B).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 3 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bonomi in view of Jaisingh et al (US 6,009,096 and hereafter referred to as "Jaisingh").

Regarding Claims 3 and 23, Bonomi discloses that that the terminal or user device communicates to the server over a direct path of the Internet network (Column 7, lines 10-15). However, Bonomi does not disclose that the user device communicates with the event server through one or more wireless base station transceivers and one or more local area networks. Jaisingh discloses that a base station, which is wireless and can be connected to the local network which includes a broadcast television and interactive video networks (Column 2, lines 45-57). Jaisingh discloses that the base

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station includes a transceiver (Column 3, lines 46-50). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Bonomi to include a communications path between a user device and the server via a wireless base station transceiver and a local area network (Figure 1) as taught by Jaisingh in order to provide a variety of services to the subscribers or to transmit subscriber specific services by allowing the network to be more flexible and efficient (Column 2, lines 11-21) as disclosed by Jaisingh.

5. Claims 4, 13, 15, 17, 18, 24, 33, 35, 37 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bonomi in view of Sposato et al (US 5,682,511).

Regarding Claims 4 and 24, Bonomi discloses all the limitations of Claims 1 and 21. Bonomi discloses that the terminal device can be a laptop or portable computer (Column 7, lines 21-23, Column 8, lines 1-4). Bonomi discloses that the terminal device has a display screen for displaying programs or program guide (Figure 5B, Figure 15B). Bonomi only briefly discloses that there is a cache memory in the client machine (Column 19, line 5) for storing program guide information. Bonomi discloses that the terminal device can receive and transmit data to the server via a wireless network (Figure 1A, Column 7, lines 10-15). Therefore, it is inherent the terminal device has a wireless communications interface. Bonomi also discloses that the terminal device is coupled to the server via a network (Figure 1A, Column 7, lines 10-15). Therefore, it is inherent that the terminal device has a network interface. However, Bonomi does not disclose all the limitations of claim 4 such as a sound module, processor, a memory and

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a removable memory. It is well known in the art that a computer system will have a sound module in order to display video services including broadcast television or VOD (Official Notice). Sposato discloses that the output device or user device can be a set top terminal (STT) or computer system (Column 13, lines 14-15). Sposato discloses that the STT or computer system includes a CPU with a microprocessor or a processor (Figure 2, 62), a memory or device memory (Figure 2, 64), and a user interface, which can be a keyboard, a mouse, a game controller or a remote control (Column 13, lines 39-44, Figures 2, 3, 80). Sposato also discloses that there is a mass storage device such as CD-ROM or removable memory interface (Column 14, lines 45-46). Sposato discloses that the viewer or user selects the program channel (Figure 3, 136) via a user interface (Column 16, lines 58-67) whether it is a broadcast programs (Column 12, lines 18) or VOD (Column 11, lines 16-24). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Bonomi in order to provide information about the user device, which includes a processor (Figure 2, 62), a memory (Figure 2, 64), one or more user interfaces (Figure 2, 3, 80) with a program selector (Figure 3, 136) and a removable memory interface (Column 14, lines 45-46) as taught by Sposato in order to provide a viewer interface with control that are optimized in both appearance and behavior for operation by viewers or users (Column 5, lines 40-45) as disclosed by Sposato.

Regarding Claims 13 and 33, Bonomi discloses all the limitations of Claims 1 and 21. Bonomi discloses that the terminal device communicates with a network via Internet in a wired or wireless network (Column 7, lines 10-15). However, Bonomi does not disclose any information about the user interface. Sposato discloses that the user

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interface, which includes a keyboard, game controller, mouse and/or a remote control (Column 13, lines 39-44) is used to communicate to the headend system server to select a program channel (Figure 3, 136) whether it is broadcast (Column 12, lines 8-18) or VOD (Column 11, lines 15-25). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Bonomi to include a user device (Column 15, lines 16-25, Figure 3) to select a program channel (Figure 3, 136) whether it is broadcasted or VOD (Column 11, lines 15-25, Column 12, lines 8-18) as taught by Sposato in order to provide interactive television services to the viewer (Column 2, lines 48-53) as disclosed by Sposato.

Regarding Claims 15 and 35, Bonomi discloses all the limitations of Claims 14 and 34. Bonomi discloses that the user can select the broadcast viewing mode (Figure 15B). Bonomi does not disclose the user interface. Sposato discloses the user interface (Figure 3, Column 13, lines 39-44) to select the program channel (Figure 3, 136). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Bonomi to include a user device (Column 13, lines 39-44, Figure 3) to select a program channel (Figure 3, 136), which is a broadcast channel (Column 12, lines 8-18) as taught by Sposato in order to provide interactive television services to the viewer (Column 2, lines 48-53) as disclosed by Sposato.

Regarding Claims 17 and 37, Bonomi discloses all the limitations of Claims 14 and 34. Bonomi discloses that the subscriber or customer can choose a MOD or VOD viewing mode (Figure 15F). Sposato discloses using the user interface (Figure 3, Column 13, lines 39-44) to access the electronic program guide (Column 16, lines 65-

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67) to choose the specific channel including on demand service (Column 16, lines 58-67) and by tuning to the specific channel the user communicates with the headend system or server (Column 17-line 1-24) or viewing the specific information on the user device on a VOD channel. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Bonomi to include a user device (Column 13, lines 39-44, Figure 3) to select a program channel (Figure 3, 136) by making a request for VOD or an on-demand service (Column 16, 58-67) as taught by Sposato in order to provide interactive television services to the viewer (Column 2, lines 48-53) as disclosed by Sposato.

Regarding Claims 18 and 38, Bonomi discloses that the terminal device stores specific information including program guide information in the cache memory of the terminal device in order to view the program guide (Column 19, lines 5-8, Figure 5B).

6. Claims 6,8, 9, 26, 28 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Bonomi and Tillman et al (US 6,496,980 and hereafter referred to as "Tillman").

Regarding Claims 6 and 26, Bonomi discloses all the limitations of Claims 1 and 21. Bonomi discloses that server has a GUI or display, which displays the information to the administrator (Figure 8A). Bonomi discloses that the server has a memory (Figure 2A, 206). Bonomi discloses that the server can transmit and receive data to the terminal device via a wireless network (Figure 1A, Column 7, lines 10-15). Therefore, it is inherent the terminal device has an input/output interface, which is a wireless communications interface. Bonomi also discloses that the terminal device is couples to

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the serve via a network (Figure 1A, Column 7, lines 10-15). Therefore, it is inherent that the terminal device has an input/output interface, which is a network interface. Bonomi discloses that the server receives broadcast television information or a broadcast channel interface a media provider or a VOD channel interface (Column 8, lines 20-26). Bonomi does not disclose a processor. Tillman discloses that the server system or event server has a processor (Figure 7). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Bonomi to include a processor (Column 11, lines 61-67, Figure 7) as taught by Tillman in order to configure the system with storage mediums (Column 11, lines 47-60) as disclosed by Tillman.

Regarding Claims 8 and 28, Bonomi discloses all the limitations of Claims 1 and 21. Bonomi discloses that video services or programs are received from media sources including the Internet television broadcast, media provider, and a satellite dish (Figure 2A). Bonomi does not disclose that the program received by the event server is from a video camera. Tillman discloses that the programs received can be live and received from a video camera (Figure 1, Column 4, lines 28-30). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the are to modify Bonomi to include that a live transmission is received from a video camera (Figure 1, Column 4, lines 28-30) as taught by Tillman in order to play live transmissions and provide instant replay without issue to bandwidth allocation (Column 3, lines 29-32) as disclosed by Tillman.

Regarding Claims 9 and 29, Bonomi discloses all the limitations of Claims 1 and 21. Bonomi discloses that there are live transmissions (Column 8, lines 40-41), but not that they are real time. Tillman discloses that real-time digital video streaming is

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provided by multiple sources (Figure 1) including a video camera (Column 4, lines 28-30) or a video service provider. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Bonomi to include that live transmissions are received in real-time by a video service provider or a video camera (Figure 1, Column 4, lines 28-30) as taught by Tillman in order to play live transmissions and provide instant replay without issue to bandwidth allocation (Column 3, lines 29-32) as disclosed by Tillman.

7. Claims 12 and 32 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bonomi in view of Arsenault et al (US 2004/0148634 and hereafter referred to as "Arsenault").

Regarding Claims 12 and 32, Bonomi discloses all the limitations of Claims 1 and 21. Bonomi discloses that the server can add an NVOD channel (Column 28, lines 23-25). Bonomi discloses that the new channel is placed on the program guide area once it is created (Column 29, lines 2-10) or notifying the terminal device that the channel is available. Bonomi does not disclose that the server adds or creates a new channel when VOD requests for a VOD channel exceeds a predetermined threshold value. Arsenault discloses that the video distribution system or event server can provide additional channels (Page 3, paragraph 0035). Arsenault discloses that for a great number of VOD requests, there is a consumption of available bandwidths causing latency issues (Page 1, paragraphs 0005-007). Official notice is taken that in order to provide additional channel for efficient use of bandwidth the video distribution system has a threshold value. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in

the are to modify Bonomi to add a new broadcast channel for VOD requests (Page 3, paragraph 0035) as taught by Arsenault in order to provide greater bandwidth (Page 1, paragraph 0005) as disclosed by Arsenault.

8. Claims 5 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bonomi in view of Sposato as applied to claims 4 or 24 above, and further in view of Son et al (US 6,681,326 and hereafter referred to as "Son").

Regarding Claim 5 and 25, Bonomi in view of Sposato discloses all the limitations of Claims 4 or 24. Bonomi discloses that program guide information is transmitted by the server and received by the terminal device (Figure 5B); the program guide information is device content information and metadata relating to a particular program or the terminal device has a metadata module. Bonomi discloses that a main page or user data is downloaded to the terminal device (Figures 14B, 15A). Bonomi discloses that the subscribers have to login via a password (Figure 16B) in order to access the server for video services or an access rights module (Figure 16B) depending on the subscriber's specific service package or a VOD module for accessing the VOD information (Figure 16B). Bonomi discloses that the terminal device receives live transmissions or streaming programs (Figure 1A) for display or a video player. Bonomi does not disclose that the device memory includes application software, an operating system or a download module. Sposato discloses that the memory (Figure 2, 64) includes application programs (Figure 2, 64) and an operating system (Figure 2, 66). Sposato discloses that the memory downloads program modules in order to update

applications and the operating system or the memory includes a download module (Column 15, lines 1-15). Bonomi in view of Sposato do not disclose an encryption module. Son discloses that the subscriber station or user device decrypts (Figure 6, 616 and Figure 7, 706) received programs prior to display (Figures 6, 7). It is inherent that the subscriber station has a memory with an encryption module as it performs the decryption process. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Bonomi in view of Sposato to include an encryption module to perform decryption (Figure 6, 616 or Figure 7, 706) as taught by Son in order to provide security measures for the video content (Column 1, lines 17-30) as disclosed by Son.

9. Claims 16 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bonomi in view of Sposato as applied to claim 15 above, and further in view of Son.

Regarding Claims 16 and 36, Bonomi discloses that the terminal device uses the program guide (Figure 5B, Figure 15B) to choose a program channel. Bonomi in view of Sposato do not disclose a decryption procedure to decode the program. Son discloses that the subscriber station or user device decrypts (Figure 6, 616 and Figure 7, 706) received programs prior to display (Figures 6, 7). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Bonomi in view of Sposato to perform a decryption procedure at the subscriber station or user device (Figure 6, 616 or Figure 7, 706) as taught by Son in order to provide security measures for the video content (Column 1, lines 17-30) as disclosed by Son.

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10. Claims 19 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bonomi in view of Sposato as applied to claim 17 above, and further in view of Son.

Regarding Claims 19 and 39, Bonomi in view of Sposato do not disclose or teach about the decryption procedure. Son discloses that the subscriber station or terminal device performs a decryption procedure (Figure 7, 706) for the VOD program and displays it (Figure 7, 618). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Bonomi in view of Sposato to perform a decryption procedure at the subscriber station or user device (Figure 7, 706) in order to display the program (Figure 7, 618) as taught by Son in order to provide security measures for the video content (Column 1, lines 17-30) as disclosed by Son.

11. Claims 20 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bonomi in view of Sposato as applied to claim 14 above, and further in view of Towell et al (US 6,647,411 and hereafter referred to as "Towell").

Regarding Claims 20 and 40, Bonomi in view of Sposato do not disclose or teach about the decryption procedure. Towell discloses that the caching device (Figure 5A, 110) or user device stores the data including video and audio content in the content cache (Figure 5A, 505) and then when then prior to viewing the data is decoded (Figure 5A) or user accesses local content and performs a decryption procedure to decode local content and displays the content. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the are to modify Bonomi in view of Sposato to decode local content

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prior to viewing at the user device (Figure 5A) as taught by Towell in order to a secure cached subscription system (Column 1, lines 66-67) as disclosed by Towell.

12. Claims 7 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bonomi in view of Tillman as applied to claims 6 or 26 above, and further in view of Sposato and Son.

Regarding Claim 7 and 27, Bonomi in view of Tillman disclose all the limitations of Claims 6 and 26. Bonomi discloses that the memory stores information and video from television broadcast at the media storage (Figure 2A, 206). Bonomi discloses a login/administration control interface which allows the system administrator or operator to manage customer information including providing the user with access levels, passwords, correct service packages (Figures 16A, 16B). Bonomi discloses that the service packages restrict access to certain channels for subscriber or for secondary account holders (such as minors) (Figure 16B) or an access rights manager. Bonomi discloses that there is a stored assets manager or storage manager (Figure 5A, 504), a received content storage module or VOD manager (Figure 5A, 512) a channel management module or channel manager (Figure 5A, 506). Bonomi discloses a program guide management module that allows the media management unit to manage the program guide information that will be provided to the subscribers or a metadata manager (Column 18, lines 6-19). Bonomi does not disclose application software, an operating system, an upload module or a network manager. Tillman discloses that the server system has an operating system (Column 12, lines 5-9). Sposato discloses that

the headend system disclosed application program software (Column 11, lines 2-6). Sposato discloses that the headend system or server to update the application software at the terminal device (Column 15, lines 1-5). Therefore, it is inherent that the headend system or server has an upload module. Sposato discloses an interactive network, which transmits programming (Figure 1) more efficiently and allows for the sufficient bandwidth (Column 2, lines 14-20). Bonomi in view of Tillman do not disclose an encryption manager. Son discloses that the programs are re-encrypted at the server (Figure 7, 704). Therefore, it is inherent that the memory has an encryption manager. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Bonomi in view of Tillman to include application software (Column 11, lines 2-6) and upload module (Column 15, lines 1-5) as taught by Sposato in order to provide interactive television services to the viewer (Column 2, lines 48-53) as disclosed by Sposato. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Bonomi in view of Tillman to include an encryption manager to perform re-encryption (Figure 7, 704) as taught by Son in order to provide security measures for the video content (Column 1, lines 17-30) as disclosed by Son.

Conclusion

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Farzana E. Hossain whose telephone number is 571-


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272-5943. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Kelley can be reached on 571-272-7331. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

June 16, 2005
FEH


CHRIS KELLEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600